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A/54/771
S/2000/162
29 February 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 10, 115 and 116
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON
THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION
RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 28 February 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to invite your attention to the gruesome massacre of 14 innocent civilians, including men, women and children, in the Kotli sector of Azad Jammu and Kashmir by Indian security forces on the night between 24 and 25 February 2000.

The assailants came from across the line of control from Indian-occupied Kashmir. They were clad in military uniforms and were armed with small weapons and hand grenades. They slit the throats of inmates of a house. They also took away with them heads of three bodies. This gruesome incident has revived the memories of a similar brutal act committed by Indian soldiers in Bandala, Azad Jammu and Kashmir in April 1998.

This latest act of State terrorism by India comes in the wake of belligerent and provocative statements by the Indian leadership. Taken together they contribute further to the vitiation of the tense security situation in the region. They form part of a pattern of intensified Indian hostility towards Pakistan aimed at pressurizing Pakistan into compromising on its principled stand on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

In spite of these aggressive Indian actions, the Government of Pakistan has maintained a policy of restraint and measured response. Pakistan remains committed to a resolution of the core dispute of Jammu and Kashmir through peaceful means in accordance with the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

The international community must urge India to desist from such provocative acts that could lead to the further escalation of existing tension in the region.

I would like to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 10, 115 and 116, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alamgir BABAR
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

UNITED NATIONS **A S**

General Assembly
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GENERAL

A/54/772
S/2000/163
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 43 and 160
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 29 February 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letter dated 18 February 2000 addressed to you from the Prime Minister of Lebanon (A/54/759-S/2000/135, annex), and the letter dated 22 December 1999 addressed to you from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations (A/54/689-S/1999/1272).

These letters serve only to obscure the fact that the continuation of violence in southern Lebanon is the direct result of the policies of the Governments of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, in supporting and encouraging terrorism by Hizballah and other organizations, while rejecting available means for resolving the conflict.

It should be recalled that Israel has repeatedly extended to Lebanon the invitation to negotiate a solution to the conflict, which would restore peace and security to our common border and which would have prevented the tragic loss of life in the area. Instead, Lebanon, together with the Syrian Arab Republic has opted to allow the conflict to continue and the human toll to rise. The perpetuation of the violence, therefore, is of their own making.

In addition, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic continue to support a terrorist campaign aimed against the peace process and against the existence of a neighbouring State, in stark violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and its resolutions. Hizballah, which Lebanon has adopted as "the Lebanese national resistance" (see letter dated 24 March 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to you (A/53/878-S/1999/333)), makes clear that its "resistance" is against the entire peace process and against Israel itself, not merely its alleged activities in Lebanon: "The conflict with Israel is viewed as a central concern. This is not

only limited to the IDF presence in Lebanon. Rather, the complete destruction of the State of Israel and the establishment of Islamic rule over Jerusalem is an expressed goal" (Hizballah Programme, 16 December 1985). Indeed, Hizballah has a well-documented record of hostage-taking and targeted attacks against civilians, including diplomatic missions, in Lebanon and abroad.

In its campaign against Israel, Hizballah has resorted to cynically using civilian areas to provide a human shield for its terrorist activity, going so far as to launch attacks deliberately from populated places. This is in total violation of international norms, humanitarian principles and the 1996 April understandings. Indeed, the sovereignty of Lebanon as a whole is undermined when Syrian forces are deployed and are active inside its borders, using Hizballah as a proxy, and thereby perpetuating a conflict that sabotages the chances for bringing peace to the area. In fact, the acts of Hizballah are a direct attack on the current peace process, just as Hizballah's goals are in absolute opposition to any peace process, as Hizballah's programme makes clear.

"Our primary assumption in our fight against Israel states that the Zionist entity is aggressive from its inception, and built on lands wrested from their owners, at the expense of the rights of the Muslim people. Therefore our struggle will end only when this entity is obliterated. We recognize no treaty with it, no ceasefire, and no peace agreements, whether separate or consolidated. We vigorously condemn all plans for negotiation with Israel, and regard all negotiators as enemies ..." (Hizballah Programme, 16 December 1985). This policy was echoed in recent weeks by Sheikh Hassan Nassrallah, the Secretary-General of Hizballah, who stated: "There is no solution to the conflict in this region except with the disappearance of Israel" (Washington Post, 1 January 2000).

Nevertheless, the Governments of the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon openly support and encourage Hizballah. As recently as last week, Lebanese Prime Minister Salim El Hoss confirmed that "we officially back the resistance", in an interview with the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram (Agence France Presse, 14 February 2000). Lebanon's Prime Minister has even praised the "jihad" of Hizballah (Voice of Lebanon, 16 February 1999).

I wish to recall the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, providing that sovereignty carries a responsibility not to allow terrorist acts to be organized and prepared on one's territory, or launched from it. The deliberate support and arming of Hizballah stand in direct conflict with Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) and international norms.

It should also be recalled that Security Council resolution 425 (1978) calls not only for the withdrawal of Israeli forces, but also for the restoration of international peace and security and the return of the effective authority of the Government of Lebanon in the area. The declared willingness of the Government of Lebanon to host an elaborate terrorist infrastructure, to permit its regular reinforcement and to endorse its operations against a neighbouring country, is totally incompatible with that Council resolution.

Coupled with its refusal to negotiate a peaceful solution, the policies of Lebanon, along with the Syrian Arab Republic's own support for Hizballah, leave Israel with no alternative but to exercise its right to self-defence in accordance with international law.

Nevertheless, we call upon the Governments of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic to refrain from backing the enemies of peace, and to demonstrate a willingness to prevent further bloodshed, by engaging Israel at the negotiating table. This process remains the only hope for restoring peace and security along our border and preventing the tragic loss of life.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 43 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aaron JACOB
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council

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S/2000/164
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 28 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a note verbale dated 7 February 2000 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD-HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-32372 (E) 020300

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Annex

Note verbale dated 7 February 2000 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran and has the honour to state the following:

On 5 February 2000, at 1930 hours, the terrorist elements of the Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) - currently authorized by the Iraqi Government to be stationed on Iraqi soil with a view to embarking on acts of sabotage against the Islamic Republic of Iran - launched six rounds of mortar attacks, in Tehran on Vali-e Asr Avenue, in the direction of the government edifices, killing one Iranian civilian and injuring some more and causing material damage to the said edifices and the surrounding buildings.

While strongly protesting against the above-mentioned act of sabotage, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran holds the Government of the Republic of Iraq responsible for the adverse consequences of such acts resulting from the provision of sanctuary to the terrorists of MKO on Iraqi soil and the creation of favourable grounds for them to organize armed terrorist and sabotage activities against the Islamic Republic of Iran, thus contravening international norms and principles, as well as the Charter of the United Nations.

This is to recall that these sorts of acts will damage irreparably the relations between the two countries. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while respecting Iraq's territorial integrity and the principles of good-neighbourly relations, considers intolerable the continuation of such hostile and subversive acts and reserves its right to legitimate self-defence as well as removal of any threats.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/2000/165
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit herewith the press communiqué on the Arusha Summit on Burundi held on 21 February 2000 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the communiqué circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daudi N. MWAKAWAGO
Ambassador

00-32352 (E) 010300

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Annex

Press communiqué issued on 21 February 2000 by the Office of the Chairman of the Arusha Summit on Burundi

At the invitation of President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda and President Benjamin William Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Arusha Initiative on the Burundi Peace Process, respectively, Presidents Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, Pasteur Bizimungu of Rwanda, Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, and Major Pierre Buyoya of Burundi, and George ole Saitoti, Vice-President of Kenya, met in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 21 February 2000 to deliberate on the current political and security situation obtaining in Burundi and the way forward in facilitating the Burundi peace negotiations.

Participating also in the Summit were Michel Louis, Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium; Peter Main, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs responsible for Africa of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and Charles Josselin, Minister of International Cooperation and Development of France.

The Summit was also attended by Salim Ahmed Salim, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU); and the representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Ambassador Berhanu Dinka, as well as other dignitaries from various countries and organizations.

The Arusha Summit reviewed the political and security situation in Burundi and noted with regret that the security situation, in particular, is deteriorating further as fighting still continues, claiming the lives of innocent people and wanton destruction of property.

The Arusha Summit recalled the decisions of the Eighth Arusha Regional Summit on Burundi regarding the immediate dismantling of the regroupment camps and noted that, despite the fact that the Government of Burundi had made a public statement that it had disbanded 11 camps, the decision of the Summit was to immediately disband all of them. In this regard, the Summit called upon the Government of Burundi to take appropriate measures accordingly.

The Facilitator, Nelson Mandela, briefed the Summit on the inter-sessional activities he had undertaken since December 1999 to date. The Summit was informed that he had met the leader of the Government of Burundi, Major Pierre Buyoya; the Speaker of the National Assembly, Leonce Ngendakumana; and other leaders of the parties to the conflict. The outcome of all these meetings showed signs of renewed commitment to restoring peace and stability in Burundi as soon as possible.

The Arusha Summit noted with satisfaction that within the short period since he had assumed his duties, the Facilitator had done a commendable job. In this regard, the Summit undertook to give maximum assistance to the Facilitator to enable him to accomplish this noble task. It reiterated its firm position that there was no alternative to a negotiated settlement and called upon the

negotiating parties to take the interests of the Burundi nation to heart and reach a peace agreement in order to foster national understanding and promote socio-economic development.

The Summit further underscored the importance of political goodwill to all the stakeholders in the Burundi conflict through the Arusha Initiative of the Burundi Peace Process. In this regard, the Summit urged all the stakeholders to seriously negotiate in the spirit of give and take so as to realize a lasting peaceful settlement to the Burundi conflict.

The Summit applauded the moral and material support given to the Burundi peace negotiations by the international community. It called for further support to the negotiations until the conclusion of the negotiation process.

The Summit expressed its profound appreciation to the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for having shouldered the burden of about half a million refugees from Burundi. It furthermore appealed to the international community to provide assistance to the United Republic of Tanzania so as to enable it to meet the increasingly heavy burden of refugees who were seeking refuge in the country.

At the conclusion of the one-day Summit, the Leaders expressed their gratitude to the President, the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for the warm reception accorded to all the delegations and for having successfully hosted the Summit on Burundi.

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Security Council

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S/2000/166
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In paragraph 26 of its resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for approval by the Council, to provide for reasonable expenses related to the Hajj pilgrimage to be met by funds in the escrow account established by Council resolution 986 (1995). In the same resolution, the Council also decided that Hajj pilgrimage flights that did not transport cargo into or out of Iraq were exempt from the provisions of paragraph 3 of Council resolution 661 (1990) and Council resolution 670 (1990), provided timely notification of each flight was made to the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990).

According to the Government of Iraq, under the Iraqi quota for the Hajj pilgrimage established by the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the total number of pilgrims is 24,700. Previous communications from the Government of Iraq, particularly to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee, indicated that $2,000 was required per pilgrim. The total amount required to cover the Hajj pilgrimage for Iraq, therefore, would be $49.4 million (see annex for statement of implementation of the Hajj pilgrimage).

Pursuant to paragraph 26 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), and taking into full account the relevant provisions of Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 661 (1990), 670 (1990) and 986 (1995), I should like to submit, for the consideration of the Council, the following arrangements:

(a) The Government of Iraq should provide the United Nations with a list of the names of the Iraqi pilgrims, including details of their respective travel documents, with an indication of mode and route of travel, by land or by air;

(b) Funds from the United Nations Iraq account, sufficient to provide each pilgrim with approximately $250 to cover local costs inside Iraq related to the pilgrimage, including pocket money, will be transferred to the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOHCI) in Baghdad. Each pilgrim will receive $250 in cash and will sign a document confirming the receipt of the funds concerned, to be witnessed and signed by a representative of UNOHCI and a representative of the Government of Iraq;

(c) All other expenses required for the pilgrimage will be handled through a third party as follows: for pilgrims travelling through Jordan, and for those travelling directly to Saudi Arabia, expenses and funds will be handled by the designated agencies in Jordan and Saudi Arabia, respectively;

(d) The agencies concerned will submit to the United Nations certified lists with the names of each pilgrim who has arrived in Jordan or Saudi Arabia;

(e) The United Nations will transfer the necessary funds from the United Nations Iraq account to the agencies concerned in Jordan and Saudi Arabia to cover the cost of the pilgrimage.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation to the Governments of Jordan and Saudi Arabia, which have expressed their readiness to assist with this endeavour.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN
Secretary-General

Annex

The Hajj pilgrimage: statement of implementation

In accordance with the agreement reached at the "informal informal" consultations of the Security Council, the following represents a statement of implementation for making available the necessary funds to meet expenses related to the Hajj pilgrimage.

The agreement envisages the distribution in Baghdad, Iraq, by the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOHCI) of $1,750 in traveller's cheques and $250 in cash (as pocket money to meet local costs, and so forth) to each Iraqi pilgrim.

1. The total funds required, $49.4 million, will be drawn from the United Nations Iraq account at Banque nationale de Paris (BNP)/Paribas and transferred to an established bank in Amman, Jordan.

2. Standard traveller's cheques with a total of $43,225,000 ($1,750 per pilgrim) will be obtained from the bank in Jordan in booklets containing $50, $100 and $500. A total amount of $6,175,000 in cash ($250 per pilgrim) will also be obtained.

3. Senior UNOHCI officials, accompanied by United Nations security personnel with additional support as necessary from the Jordanian authorities, will receive the total funds at the bank. They will escort the funds, in coordination with the United Nations established courier service, to a United Nations aircraft that has received prior approval from the Security Council Committee established by Council resolution 661 (1990), and the Government of Iraq, to fly to Baghdad with the specific purpose of delivering the above funds to UNOHCI in Iraq.

4. Upon its arrival in Iraq, the United Nations aircraft will be met by United Nations security personnel with additional local security support as necessary. All security personnel will escort the funds by road in United Nations vehicles to UNOHCI headquarters in Baghdad. The funds will be kept in the UNOHCI vault and guarded by United Nations security and local security personnel on a 24-hour basis.

5. Designated UNOHCI staff, supervised by senior UNOHCI finance and administrative personnel, will collate $250 in cash and $1,750 in traveller's cheques to be distributed to each Iraqi pilgrim.

6. Distribution of the funds will be based upon the lists of names of the Iraqi pilgrims presented to the United Nations by the Government of Iraq. Distribution will be undertaken in the presence of UNOHCI personnel and representatives of the Government of Iraq. Pilgrims will travel to UNOHCI headquarters in Baghdad to receive the funds where the following procedures will apply:

(a) Each pilgrim will furnish identification upon the presentation of which UNOHCI personnel will confirm that the pilgrim is on the list submitted by the Government of Iraq;

(b) Each pilgrim signs the allocated traveller's cheques in the presence of a UNOHCI staff member and a representative of the Government of Iraq, and signs against his/her name in the list provided by the Government of Iraq to confirm receipt;

(c) Each pilgrim receives $250 in cash and signs against his/her name on the list provided by the Government of Iraq to confirm receipt.

7. UNOHCI will inform immediately the United Nations Treasury of any funds not distributed to pilgrims. Stop-payments will be issued against the traveller's cheques not distributed. UNOHCI will retain any cash funds that have not been distributed and ensure that the equivalent amount is transferred from the ESD (2.2 per cent) account to the ESB (53 per cent) account.

8. Upon completion of the distribution of funds, the lists will be sent to the relevant authorities in Saudi Arabia positioned to receive the Iraqi pilgrims at the designated entry points into Saudi Arabia.

9. On the basis of the lists, the relevant authorities in Saudi Arabia will confirm the entry of Iraqi pilgrims into Saudi Arabia. Subsequent to the end of the Hajj season, the lists will be returned to UNOHCI headquarters where UNOHCI personnel will undertake a cross-referencing exercise to verify that all pilgrims in receipt of funds entered Saudi Arabia.

10. Any discrepancies will be reported directly to the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme, who will in turn report to the Security Council for its appropriate action.

1 March 2000

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S/2000/167
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 2000 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 24 February 2000 (S/2000/166) concerning your proposed arrangements to provide for reasonable expenses related to the Hajj pilgrimage to be met by funds in the escrow account established by Security Council resolution 986 (1995) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. The members of the Council have held consultations on the matter and have also considered your statement of implementation dated 1 March 2000 (S/2000/166, annex).

The Council authorizes you to proceed with the necessary arrangements regarding the Hajj pilgrimage outlined in the statement of implementation as proposed by you.

(Signed) Anwarul Karim CHOWDHURY
President of the Security Council

00-32346 (E) 010300

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/2000/168
1 March 2000
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 29 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 28 February 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls your attention to statements made by the United States Secretary of State on 16 February 2000 that confirm the involvement of the United States in certain activities, armed and otherwise, and in the financing of terrorist acts aimed at overthrowing the national regime in Iraq, and he points out the need for the United Nations, in accordance with its legal and moral responsibilities, to oppose attempts to undermine the integrity and independence of States Members of the Organization.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 28 February 2000 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to call your attention to the statements concerning Iraq that were made on 16 February 2000 by United States Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in her testimony to the Committee on International Relations of the United States House of Representatives regarding the Fiscal Year 2001 budget request for international affairs. Replying to a question from Representative Benjamin Gilman, she said that the policy of the United States towards Iraq had not changed and that it believed that strengthening the embargo against the regime was important in order to contain Iraq. Albright then claimed that Iraq was threatening its neighbours and that the United States was therefore strengthening the embargo against it (which is a base falsehood). The Secretary of State went on to say that the second aspect of United States policy was commitment to changing the regime and helping the opposition internally and externally; that the Administration was discussing the question of supplying opposition members with non-military equipment and providing them with training programmes; that she had met with a large number of them; and that the United States position had thus not changed and was to contain the regime and strive for its replacement. She indicated that there was believed to be a possibility of introducing opposition groups into Iraq to begin the process of overthrowing the regime; that the Administration believed that this process would require regional support that did not presently exist; and that action would require support from United States forces.

It is doubtless clear from the foregoing that the United States of America is organizing certain activities, armed and otherwise, that have the aim of overthrowing the national regime in Iraq and provoking a civil war in the country. It is organizing, encouraging and financing terrorist activities to be carried out by certain mercenaries who have betrayed their homeland and are in the pay of those recruited by the United States intelligence services. In doing so it is violating the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, the 1970 Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as well as the norms of international law that prohibit the organization of such activities directed against another State. It is also violating all the Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq, which affirm that the country's security, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence must be respected.

The statements made by the United States Secretary of State represent manifest political hypocrisy, and the world has lost all patience with such endless dissimulation. The most salient and vivid illustration of this has been provided by the resignations of those running the humanitarian oil-for-food programme. Those who have resigned can provide eyewitness testimony to the true nature of Iraq's suffering as a result of the United States policy of arrogance. There are many worthy people in the world, women and men, who support Iraq's position and who condemn the embargo being maintained against it. The worldwide surge of protest against the embargo has even reached the institutions of the

United States Government itself, inasmuch as 70 United States Congressmen recently called upon the President of their country to end the unjust embargo against the people of Iraq.

The United Nations has a legal and moral responsibility to defend the principles of its Charter, to oppose attempts to undermine the integrity and independence of its Member States and to reject a United States policy that seeks to return the international community to the law of the jungle and the reign of brute force. Until such time as the international community and its institutions take action to halt such aggression, the people of Iraq will continue to oppose the State terrorism of the United States in order to preserve the territorial integrity and independence of its country, uphold its right to a life of dignity, safeguard the principles of the Charter and of international law and defend the right of peoples to self-determination.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

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S/2000/169
1 March 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 2000 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have been instructed by my Government to draw your attention to the statement of Carl Bildt, your Special Envoy for the Balkans, made at the 4105th meeting of the Security Council, on 28 February 2000.

Instead of addressing the true sources of instability in the region, your Special Envoy engaged in grossly misrepresenting the political situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and in levelling a series of false and slanderous allegations at its leadership. Not a single word did your Special Envoy say about ethnic Albanian terrorism and separatism, which are a function of the creation of Greater Albania, the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its humanitarian, economic, ecological and political consequences or the plight of about 1 million refugees from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and displaced persons from Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia.

In his statement, your Special Envoy failed to call for a comprehensive and consistent implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and to point to its continued obstruction and outright violation by your Special Representative in Kosovo and Metohija, Bernard Kouchner. He also failed to condemn the terror against, and the ethnic cleansing of, Serbs and other non-Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, carried out for almost nine months in the presence of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). Instead, your Special Envoy took it upon himself to propound and proclaim a new regional approach, including a territorial partitioning of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In doing so, he was oblivious of the fact that the basic parameters for the solution of the problems in Kosovo and Metohija are substantial autonomy and self-government for this Serbian province and full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as provided for by Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

It is highly inappropriate for a high-ranking official of the United Nations to engage, in a meeting of the Security Council, in vilifying the leadership of a State Member of the United Nations, failing all the while to

point to the problems arising from the flouting or outright non-implementation of the Council's own resolution. No doubt this callous exercise was aimed at condoning the NATO criminal aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a most drastic example of the violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic principles of international law. Over and above, your Special Envoy paid no heed to the fact that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is a sovereign State and that it has a legitimate leadership.

The positions of Mr. Bildt rang very hollow indeed against the fact that, ever since his appointment as your Special Envoy, he has continually refused to establish official contacts with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and, in doing so, deprived himself of the opportunity to obtain a first-hand knowledge of the situation in the country he purports to cover and report upon. His deliberate refusal to cooperate with the legitimate and democratically elected authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia runs counter to his alleged readiness to cooperate with all the countries of the Balkans. Open interference in the internal matters of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, unsought meddling in the relations between its two federal units and the malicious allegations against its legitimate authorities disqualify your Special Envoy for the mission of honest broker that you have entrusted him with.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia repudiates the unprecedented, tendentious behaviour of your Special Envoy for the Balkans and calls upon you to accord due attention to his statements about the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, particularly about Kosovo and Metohija. The statement he made at the meeting of the Security Council constituted wanton interference in the internal matters of a State Member of the United Nations, transgressed the mandate you have entrusted him with and was incongruous with the principles and goals of the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.